

"ALL ABOARD THE ART TRAIN"

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Join us for a unique journey that will take you throughout Gaithersburg as you explore artist embellished fiberglass locomotives and cabooses that reveal the imagination of our community.

How many Art Trains will there be? Approximately 20 or more artist embellished, fiberglass locomotives and caboose, will be placed throughout the City.

I've heard of these kind of public art programs in other cities, why trains in Gaithersburg? Trains have defined Gaithersburg from the beginning when they were used to deliver farm products to Washington markets, and now today, trains serve as an important commuter link. What better way to honor our city's rich railroad history than with an Art Train public art project that involves the entire community.

Who is involved in developing and planning the program? The City's Art in Public Places Committee recommended the program, the Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Corporation is sponsoring it, and the Gaithersburg Germantown Chamber of Commerce is endorsing it. The City of Gaithersburg cultural arts staff and volunteers are implementing the program.

What is the Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Corporation? The Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Funding Corporation (GAMFC) is a 501(c)(3), tax exempt, charitable organization whose mission is to heighten the awareness of revitalization and arts initiatives within the City of Gaithersburg and to raise funds and use those funds to support those programs and initiatives.

What is the Art in Public Places Committee? The Art in Public Places (AIPP) Committee is a Mayor and City Council appointed committee of volunteers from the community. It is the mission of the AIPP program to foster vitality in developing and redeveloping areas in Gaithersburg through the public art installations, and to create a sense of place and pride for the Gaithersburg community.

How long will the program last? There's no set time limit, but it is expected that the program will last one to two years.

What type of community events will occur in conjunction with the Art Train program? Some of the promotional and community activities surrounding the Art Trains will be Scavenger Hunts, T-shirt sales, school activities such as train design competitions, map of Train locations and sponsor information, and associated Tree Projects.

How large are the Art Trains? How much do they weigh? What are they made of? The Locomotive is 9 feet long, 6 feet high, and 33" inches wide (it will fit through most doors). The Caboose is 6 feet long, 4 feet high, and 33" inches wide. They weigh about 120 pounds, but when placed at their locations, they'll be filled with 250+ pounds of sand. The Art Trains are made of fiberglass and sealed with automotive clear coating when the artists are finished painting them. This coating will protect them from weather.

When will the Art Trains be completed? The first Trains debuted in July of 2007. After that, Trains will be placed as they are completed.

How does an Artist apply to participate? Artists may obtain an application from the Art Train website (www.gaithersburgmd.gov/arttrain) or call the Arts Barn at 301-258-6394. Completed applications should include one or more designs for a caboose and/or locomotive that the artist would use if selected as a participating Art Train artist.

How will the Artists be selected? The Art in Public Places Committee reviews all the artists' applications and selects those that will be included in the Portfolio of Artists. A design from the Portfolio of Artists must be selected for production by a sponsor before the artist will be selected to participate.

Will the artists be paid for their work? Yes, artists are paid a commission that includes money for supplies (Locomotive artists receive a total of \$800 and Caboose artists receive a total of \$700).

Who will sponsor the Art Trains? Any individual, group, organization, or business may sponsor an Art Train.

Where will the Art Trains be placed? Trains will be placed all throughout the City. A sponsor may suggest a location for their Train, and if the City's Code permits, their Train will be placed as requested. However, all Art Trains must remain within the City of Gaithersburg incorporated City limits.

Who will own the Art Trains? The Art Trains will be owned by the City of Gaithersburg throughout the duration of the promotional period of the program. It is the intention of the City to transfer ownership of the Art Trains to the Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Corporation (GAMFC) at the conclusion of this period. If the sponsor wishes to own their train at the end of the program's promotional period, GAMFC will transfer ownership to the sponsor at that time.

Who will maintain the Art Trains? Throughout the promotional period of the program, the City of Gaithersburg will be responsible for any reasonable repair and maintenance of the trains. Should a train become significantly damaged, the City may determine not to repair the train under no further obligation to the sponsor. If such a determination is made, the City will confer with the sponsor who may undertake such repairs at their own expense.

What are the benefits of being a sponsor?

- The sponsor's name is prominently displayed on the base of their train, which may be displayed in front of their place of business (subject to municipal approval).
- The sponsor may choose available artists from the Portfolio of Artists.
- The sponsor's name and/or company logo will be featured on:
 - Self-guided tour maps of the All Aboard the Art Train public art project
 - All Aboard the Art Train print advertising and promotional materials
 - The City of Gaithersburg's All Aboard the Art Train website page and cable TV promotional spots

Why is the sponsorship check made out to Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Corporation (GAMFC)? GAMFC is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, charitable organization whose mission is to heighten the awareness of revitalization and arts initiatives within the City of Gaithersburg and to raise funds and use those funds to support those programs and initiatives. Any proceeds from the All Aboard the Art Train program will benefit the arts programs in Gaithersburg.

Is a sponsorship fee tax deductible? The sponsorship fee may be tax deductible under the IRS tax guidelines for 501(c)(3) corporations. Please consult a tax advisor.

What will happen to the Art Trains at the end of the program? It is the intention of the City of Gaithersburg to transfer ownership of the Art Trains to the Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Corporation (GAMFC), which may then transfer ownership, use, sell, or lease the trains. If GAMFC sells the train, that Train's sponsor will receive a statement noting its selling price. If a sponsor wishes to own their train at the conclusion of the program, only a portion of the sponsorship fee may be tax deductible. A tax advisor should be consulted.

What does it cost to sponsor an Art Train? Sponsorships are \$4,500 for a Locomotive and \$3,500 for a Caboose.

Where do I mail my sponsorship or artist application? Please mail either form to: All Aboard the Art Train, Gaithersburg Arts and Monuments Funding Corporation, 311 Kent Square Road, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878.

Who do I call for more information or to discuss participating in the All Aboard the Art Train program? Artists and volunteers may call the Arts Barn at 301-258-6394. For sponsor information, please call, Denise Kayser, Cultural Arts Director, 301-258-6396.